



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/824,335  
Filing Date: April 14, 2004  
Applicant: SHINKAWA et al.  
Group Art Unit: 2853  
Examiner: MARTIN, Laura E.  
Title: DROPLET EJECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD OF  
DETECTING AND JUDGING HEAD FAILURE  
Attorney Docket: 9319A-000762

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 11, 2006, please amend the application as follows and consider the remarks set forth below.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 20 of this paper.